



## Hillborough Infant and Nursery School

### Newsletter – 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025

**Value of the month** – our value of the month is **respect**.

**Language of the month** – Albanian

Dear parents and guardians,

As we move into the second half of November, it is lovely to be able to share the latest updates and happenings here at School. This month, our focus, has been and is on the value of **respect**. We believe that fostering respect in our school community is essential for creating a positive and supportive environment where every child can thrive.

**Language of the month** – has been run and celebrated over the past five years. Celebrating a "Language of the Month" in our school is a fantastic way to promote linguistic diversity and cultural awareness among pupils. It allows them to foster an appreciation and respect for various cultures; highlighting different languages and the rich language diversity that we have in our community; promotes inclusivity and understanding; bridges home and school; and supports and embraces all children and their families as part of our school community and identity.

**Ark Farm Visit** – the children, families and staff very much enjoyed today's (14/11/25) visit by the farm. A wide range of farm, pet and exotic animals visited the school for the day. The children were so excited to see and pet; sheep, a donkey, rabbits, goats, ducks, chickens, tortoises, guinea-pigs, chinchillas, lizards and so many more animals. A big thank you to Miss Bianchi for organising the whole day and all the support from the school staff for making it a success.

**Remembrance Day** – all our children took time out at 11:00 to reflect and remember those who gave their lives to ensure our freedoms. We use a wonderful CBeebies video to support this – [‘Poppies’](#)

[Odd Socks Day](#) (10<sup>th</sup> November 2025) – was part of our Anti Bullying Week or as we like to call it ‘friendship week’, the children enjoyed being able to wear odd socks for the day! It is a great way to celebrate what makes us unique in ‘friendship week’. Odd Socks Day is delivered in partnership with CBeebies and CBBC star Andy Day and his band, Andy and the Odd Socks.

[Children in Need](#) – is on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November and we will be having our non-uniform day on **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2025** with a **focus on ‘challenge yourself to 25’!** We know times are challenging for us all and if you are able to donate, no matter how small an amount, you can do so via our [JustGiving](#) page – just click on the blue words and it will take you there. This charity is celebrating 25 years of supporting children in the UK.

**Governor visit day** - We were delighted to welcome our governors into school on 14th November for a dedicated visit day. This was a valuable opportunity for our governing board to see our school in action and gain first-hand insight into the daily life of our school community. These visits during the school day help governors find out more about the school, including how policies and school improvement plans are working in practice, and the views of pupils, staff and parents/carers. We are grateful to our governors for their time and commitment to understanding our school community, and to our staff and children for welcoming them so warmly.

**Exercise for children** - research indicates that inactive children are likely to become inactive adults, putting young people at risk of developing conditions as they grow up and become adults. This is why it is important to encourage exercise and keeping fit from a young age. We would like to sign post you to links

that may support increased activity outside of school: [GOSH – exercise for children and young adults](#), [Change4Life](#) and the [NHS Live Well](#) website

**Cost of living support** – we know that times are challenging with regard to the cost of living and the current energy crisis. We have attached a document that might signpost you to local agencies that might be able to support you. We are also signposting you to some websites that might support you to compare prices – click on the blue words to take you to the websites. Comparing grocery prices at [trolley.co.uk](#); 'superizon' which can be found on Google Play or Apple's App Store – again a supermarket comparison site and finally a website for bargains in food, fashion, books, home and other areas – [LatestDeals.co.uk](#). We would like to point out that school is not endorsing any of the sites and is just signposting you to possible sites that might be able to support you and your family.

#### **Updates from year groups:**

- **Nursery & Reception** – produce a wonderful weekly newsletter with all the exciting information about what they are working on and how you can best support your child during the week.
- **Year 1** – have been busy, with our core subjects - In English, we have been reading the story of [Dogger](#). He is a teddy that gets lost. The children have been learning the features of a poster and are currently busy making 'Lost' posters for him. In maths, we have been exploring numbers beyond 10. We have represented them in various ways and are learning how to write them.

With our foundation subjects, the following is noted - We have had a visit from the farm this week whereby the children have seen and learnt about lots of different animals. This links nicely with our new science topic. We have all made poppy wreaths for Remembrance. We are focussing on our upcoming Nativity performances. All children have been allocated a part and should have their lines to learn. This can be one of their reading task for the week, We have been busy learning all the songs and putting actions together.

- **Year 2** - have been reading the story '[Katie in London](#)' in English. We have been learning about the key features of letter writing, including how to structure a letter with a greeting, main body and closing. The children have also been practising using past tense verbs to write about events that have already happened, and have been working hard on extending their sentences using conjunctions such as 'and', 'but' and 'or' to make their writing more interesting and detailed. Finally, they wrote a letter in response to 'Grandma's letter.
- With the rest of our core subjects, the following is noted - In maths, we have been developing our understanding of addition and subtraction. We have been adding and subtracting 2-digit numbers using the 'think 10 first' strategy, which helps children, break down calculations into more manageable steps by working with multiples of 10. Our science learning has focused on the importance of sleep for our health and wellbeing. We discussed why our bodies need rest and how sleep helps us to grow, learn and stay healthy. We were also very excited to have a visit from the farm! This gave us a wonderful opportunity to revisit our work on classification, sorting and grouping different animals based on their characteristics.
- With our foundation subjects, the following is noted - We have been learning about Remembrance Day, exploring why we remember those who have served and sacrificed for our country. This linked beautifully with our RE learning as we thought about themes of remembrance, respect and gratitude. Thank you for helping your child make their origami poppy at home. In DT, we have started an exciting new project looking at mechanisms in pop-up books. The children have been investigating how different mechanisms work to create movement and are looking forward to designing and creating their own. It has been another busy and productive fortnight in Year 2. The children have shown excellent engagement across all subjects and should be very proud of their hard work!

**SEND** – We would like to signpost you to the following webpage that Luton have: [SEND Information Hub](#). Click on the blue writing to take you directly to the page.

Wishing you a peaceful weekend  
Hillborough Infant & Nursery School Team